

WELCOME TO



DISTRICT 13

Congressional District 13

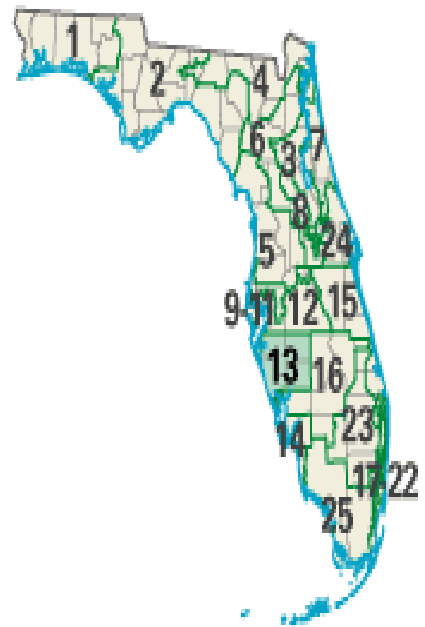


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13 Congressional District

Desoto County



Florida (25 Districts)



New Resident and Visitors' Guide *13th District of Florida*

Beaches

Siesta Beach is located on Beach Road on Siesta Key. Siesta Beach is known as one of the most beautiful beaches anywhere in the world. At the "Great International White Sand Beach Challenge" held in 1987, it was recognized as having and finest sand in the Unlike beaches are made up mostly of Beach's sand is 99% on the hottest days, reflective that it feels underfoot. Shallow the near shore area year round lifeguard makes this one of the in the County and children.



the "whitest world." elsewhere that coral, Siesta quartz. Even the sand is so cool water depth in together with protection, safest beaches great for small

RECREATIONAL SITES

Circus Sarasota - Sarasota's own resident circus. Circus Sarasota presents exciting professional family entertainment in winter performances under the big-top and special events and classes throughout the year.

Crowley Museum and Nature Center - The self-guided nature trail winds through the property from dry pine flatwoods, shady oak hammocks, over the Maple Branch swamp, and out to the the Myakka River. The Museum exhibits a variety of historic objects, household furnishings and tools.

Florida Gulf Coast Rail Road Museum - The Museum offers one of the most unique museum experiences in the world. Here you "Ride the Exhibits!" The Museum operates weekend excursions year-round from the Train Station in Parrish, Florida.

G.WIZ (Gulfcoast Wonder and Imagination Zone) - G.WIZ provides a unique hands on view of science with an array of exhibits that are sure to entertain everyone in the family.

Historic Spanish Point - Historic Spanish Point is a 30-acre historical, archaeological and environmental museum. Here you can walk through the history of the area from the region's earliest people and their shell mounds to the inhabitants of the early 1900s.

John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art - The Museum of Art, built by John Ringling to house his personal collection of masterpieces, today features paintings and sculptures by the great Old Masters. In addition you can tour the Cà d'Zan Mansion, the Ringlings' dazzling palatial mansion with its 56 furnished rooms. Also housed on the grounds is the famous Circus Museum celebrating the American circus and its history.

Marie Selby Botanical Gardens - The 9.5-acre bayfront Selby Gardens property is an open-air and under-glass museum of more than 20,000 colorful plants. The gardens specialize in tropical plants, especially epiphytes (plants that grow on other plants). Selby Gardens is perhaps best known for its living collection of more than 6,000 orchids.

Mote Marine Laboratory - At Mote Aquarium, you can explore the secrets of the sea through touch pools, viewable-working labs and high-tech interactive exhibits that showcase the world-renowned research of Mote Marine Laboratory. See sharks, dolphins, manatees and sea turtles, along with more than 100 other species of marine life.

Myakka River State Park - One of the largest parks in Florida, Myakka River flows through 58 square miles of wetlands and pinelands. Enjoy the wildlife from a boardwalk that stretches out over the Upper Myakka Lake or take a walk along the canopy walkway. You can also enjoy boating on the park's river and two lakes, hike along trails that cross dry prairie, or take a lake tour on the world's two largest airboats. Full-facility campgrounds and primitive campsites are available.

Sarasota Classic Car Museum - The Sarasota Classic Car Museum is recognized as one of the Nation's oldest continuously operating antique car museums. The museum has rotating exhibits throughout the year featuring antique, exotic, European and one-of-a-kind car classics.

Sarasota Jungle Gardens - Sarasota Jungle Gardens features 10 acres of tropical vegetation, winding trails and entertaining, educational bird and reptile shows. Also featured are the American Flamingos that will eat out of the palm of your hand.

South Florida Museum, Parker Manatee Aquarium and Bishop Planetarium - Three great attractions in one stop. The South Florida Museum shows the region from the prehistoric to the present with life-size exhibits based on its anthropological artifacts. The Manatee Aquarium is a second stage rehabilitation facility for manatees that will be released back into the wild. It is also home to Manatee County's official mascot, 'Snooty', the manatee. Bishop Planetarium is a domed theater; the planetarium allows visitors to explore their universe through traditional live star talks and virtual journeys to the far reaches of the cosmos.

Van Wezel - Set along Sarasota's beautiful bay front, the landmark Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall has been entertaining audiences with music, dance, theater and comedy for more than 35 years.

<http://www.vanwezel.org/aboutUs/aboutTheHall.cfm> BOX OFFICE: 1-800-826-9303

LIBRARIES

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| <p><u>Fruitville Library</u> 100 Coburn Road Sarasota, FL 34240 (941) 861-2500</p> | <p><u>Central Library</u> 1301 Barcarrota Boulevard West Bradenton, FL 34205-7522 (941) 748-5555</p> |
| <p><u>Gulf Gate Library</u> 7112 Curtiss Ave. Sarasota, FL 34231 (941) 861-1230</p> | <p><u>South Manatee Branch</u> 6081 26th Street West Bradenton, FL 34207-4402 (941) 755-3892</p> |
| <p><u>North Sarasota Library</u> 2801 Newtown Blvd. Sarasota, FL 34234 (941) 861-1360</p> | <p><u>North Port Library</u> 13800 S. Tamiami Trail North Port, FL 34287 (941) 861-1300</p> |
| <p><u>Selby Library</u> 1331 First St. Sarasota, FL 34236 (941) 861-1100</p> | <p><u>Elsie Quirk Library</u> 100 West Dearborn St. Englewood, FL 34223 (941) 861-1200</p> |
| <p><u>Jacaranda Library</u> 4143 Woodmere Park Blvd. Venice, FL 34293 (941) 861-1260</p> | <p><u>Palmetto Branch Library</u> 923 6th Street West Palmetto, FL 34221-4607 (941) 722-3333</p> |
| <p><u>Venice Library</u> 300 S. Nokomis Ave. Venice, FL 34285 (941) 861-1330</p> | <p><u>Island Branch Library</u> 5701 Marina Drive Holmes Beach, FL 34217-1516 (941) 778-6341</p> |

COLLEGES

Sarasota County Technical Institute

4748 Beneva Road, Sarasota Florida 34233

941-924-1365

University of South Florida at Sarasota-Manatee

8350 N. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota, FL 34243

941-359-4200

Ringling School Of Art And Design

2700 North Tamiami Trail. Sarasota, FL 34234-5895

941-351-5100

State College of Florida

7131 Professional Pkwy. E. Sarasota, FL 34240

941-363-7000

New College of Florida

5800 Bay Shore Road. Sarasota Florida 34243

941-487-5000

Keiser College

6151 Lake Osprey Drive. Sarasota, Florida 34240

941-907-3900

SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Sarasota County

1960 Landings Blvd. Sarasota, FL 34231
(941) 927-9000

Manatee County

215 Manatee Avenue West. Bradenton, FL 34205
(941) 708-8770

Hardee County

1009 N. 6th Ave. Wauchula FL, 33873
(863) 773-9058

Desoto County

530 LaSolona Avenue. Arcadia, FL 34266
(863) 494-4222

Charlotte County

1445 Education Way. Port Charlotte, FL 33948
(941) 255-0808

AIRPORTS

Sarasota-Bradenton International Airport

6000 Airport Circle

Sarasota, Florida

(941) 359-2770

Venice Municipal Airport

150 E. Airport Ave.

Venice, Florida

(941) 486-2711

HOSPITALS

Sarasota Memorial Hospital

1700 Tamiami Trail. Sarasota , FL
(941) 917-9000

Manatee Memorial Hospital

206 Second Street East. Bradenton, FL
(941) 746-5111

Bon Secours Hospital

540 The Rialto. Venice, FL
(941) 485-7711

Doctors Hospital of Sarasota

5731 Bee Ridge Road. Sarasota, FL
(941) 342-1100

SHERIFF OFFICES

Sarasota County Sheriff Tom Knight

2071 Ringling Blvd
Sarasota, FL 34237
(941) 861-4081

4531 State Road 776
Venice, FL 34293
(941) 861-1704

Manatee County Sheriff Brad Steube

600 Highway 301 Boulevard West
Bradenton, FL 34205
(941) 747-3011

